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Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

AUG - 7 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matters of:

Changes to the Board of
Directors of the National Exchange
Carrier Association, Inc.

Federal-State Joint Board on
Universal Service

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) CC Docket No. 97-21/DA 97-1561
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) CC Docket No. 96-45
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**REPORT and ORDER an
SECOND ORDER on RECONSIDERATION**

Schools and Libraries Corporation (SLC) Board Nominations

In its Notice dated August 1, 1997, the Commission requests nominations for the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors, the Schools and Libraries Corporation (SLC) Board of Directors, and the Rural Health Care Corporation (RHC) Board of Directors. The Chairman of the Commission will review the nominations submitted by industry and non-industry groups and select the members of the USAC, SLC and RHC Boards. Nominations must be submitted by August 15, 1997.

The Public Service Telecommunications Corporation (PSTC) would like to nominate Arthur D. Sheekey as an Independent Director for the Schools and Libraries (SLC) Board of Directors. Dr. Sheekey has a long and distinguished career in the field of education and telecommunications. He also serves as the Treasurer and Board Member for the Alliance for Public Technology (APT). Dr. Sheekey's appointment as an independent representative would serve to strengthen the overall effectiveness of the Board in meeting its responsibilities, as designated by the Commission and Federal-State Board on Universal Service.

The Public Service Telecommunications Corporation is a 501(c)(3) telecommunications management and consulting firm. PSTC's clients include international and domestic public service organizations in the fields of education, health and medicine, public broadcasting, government, civic and professional associations, and religious groups. PSTC was created in 1975

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to serve the telecommunications needs of educational and nonprofit associations. PSTC staff has worked with national educational associations and professional organizations, including the National Association of Secondary School Principals, National Community Education Association, Youth Policy Institute, and American Library Association.

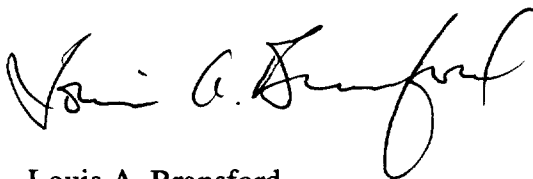
Since 1995, Dr. Sheekey has been a member of the Board of the Alliance for Public Technology. The Alliance for Public Technology is a grassroots coalition of more than 300 community leaders, public interest and consumer organizations. The Alliance has been the nation's leading voice articulating the need for universal service by all consumers to advanced telecommunications services.

Dr. Arthur Sheekey served as President of the Public Service Telecommunications Corporation between May 1995 - April 1997. He currently serves as a senior policy associate and reports directly to PSTC's Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Louis A. Bransford. Since joining PSTC he has worked primarily as a consultant to national education organizations and private corporations. During the past two years, he participated as a panelist at several national conferences, published more than two dozen articles on education research and telecommunications, and made presentations at numerous conferences and seminars on telecommunications. This summer, he served as a chairperson and peer review panelist for the Departments of Commerce (NTIA) and Education. His recent book, *Education and Telecommunications: Critical Issues and Resources* will be published by Information Gatekeepers, Inc., a telecommunications publishing firm based in Boston, MA later this month.

Prior to employment Dr. Sheekey held numerous high-level management and advisory positions in the U.S. Department of Education and other federal agencies. He also worked in the Office of Plans and Policy at the Federal Communications Commission, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, and Office of Management and Budget. He was a Senior Associate at the American Association for Higher Education, Senior Fellow at the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Area, Resident Scholar at Stanford University's Graduate School of Education. He taught high school and junior high school science for five years in New Jersey. He has a BA in science from Jersey City State College, MA in education from Seton Hall University, and Ph.D. in education technology from Catholic University.

Additional background information on Dr. Sheekey and Public Service Telecommunications Corporation are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis A. Bransford". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Louis" and last name "Bransford" clearly distinguishable.

Louis A. Bransford
Chairman and CEO
Public Telecommunications Corporation

4900 Seminary Road
Suite 430
Alexandria, VA 22311

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Arthur D. Sheekey
Senior Policy Associate
Public Service Telecommunications Corporation

Arthur Sheekey served as President of the Public Service Telecommunications Corporation between May 1995 - April 1997. Since joining PSTC he has worked as a consultant to The Aspen Institute's Communications and Society Program, University of Maryland's College of Education, Montgomery County Public Schools, Youth Policy Institute, National Community Education Association, National Urban Fellows Program, Xerox Corporation, and the White House Corporate Commission on Educational Technology. He also represented Information Gatekeepers, Inc., a publishing firm based in Boston. During the past two years, he participated as a panelist at several national conferences, completed work on a soon-to-be published book, and published more than two dozen articles on education policy and telecommunications.

Dr. Sheekey was a senior policy analyst in the Office of Educational Research and Improvement at the U.S. Department of Education. Between 1980 - 1990, his responsibilities involved the management of programs and planning initiatives focusing on education research and applications of telecommunications technologies for delivering education and related public services. Since then, his work has concentrated primarily on legislative and regulatory developments in science and technology.

As a ComSci Fellow in 1991-1992, he worked in the Office of Plans and Policy at the Federal Communications Commission and White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. At the FCC, he contributed to the preparation of a special hearing and report on "Networks of the Future." At OSTP, he prepared background testimony statements and special reports on science and engineering education for the Science Advisor and President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology. He is a guest lecturer at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN, member of the Alliance for Public Technology Board, and senior associate and contributing editor for the Youth Policy Institute.

Dr. Sheekey served as Director of the Education Information Resources Division and Acting Director of the Division of Postsecondary and Adult Education in the Office of Research. He served as a management and budget specialist on President Carter's Reorganization Project at the Office of Management and Budget. Prior to the creation of the Education Department, he was the principal planning and budget officer for the Assistant Secretary for Education at the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Dr. Sheekey was a Senior Associate at the American Association for Higher Education, Senior Fellow at the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Area, Adjunct Professor at Vanderbilt University, Resident Scholar at Stanford University's Graduate School of Education. He taught high school and junior high school science for five years in New Jersey. He has a BA in science from Jersey City State College, MA in education from Seton Hall University, and Ph.D. in education technology from Catholic University.

Public Service Telecommunications Corporation

Statement of Qualifications

The Public Service Telecommunications Corporation (PSTC) is a 501(c)(3) telecommunications consulting firm. Its clients include international and domestic public service organizations in the fields of education, health and medicine, public broadcasting, government, civic and professional associations, and religious groups. The organization was created in 1975 to serve the telecommunications needs of educational and nonprofit associations.

Organizations look to PSTC for an unbiased user perspective on the numerous available telecommunications technologies. Telecommunications planning, evaluation and utilization in the public service sector have evolved to the point where individual organizations often do not possess the in-house expertise necessary to match increasingly sophisticated needs with the appropriate technologies. As part of the decision-making process the issues of cost, obsolescence, competition, viability, regulations, maintenance, availability of programming, and equipment compatibility need to be taken into consideration. PSTC continually tracks current technical and regulatory developments in the telecommunications industry. Members of PSTC staff serve as consultants and resource specialists to a wide range of institutional clients.

PSTC's distinctive areas of service accomplishments include the following:

- Technical feasibility studies, markets research, needs assessments, telecommunications implementation, and project evaluation.
- Teleconferencing and program distribution planning using video, audio, audiographic, and computer technologies.
- Distance Learning planning and implementation.
- Telecommunications policy analysis and research.
- Workshops and seminars on timely telecommunications topics.
- Coordinating integration of dedicated communications networks and other telecommunications systems.

Related Work Experience

Project Management

PSTC was awarded a National Science Foundation Teacher Enhancement Program Planning Grant. In fulfillment of the grant, PSTC reviewed the current literature on the use of technology in the science classroom; compiled information on various science and mathematics programs funded by the federal government, states and private initiatives and interviewed project directors and staff regarding the integration and effective use of technology in selected programs; met with experts in the field of technology and science education; attended conferences (both in-person and electronic); explored alliances with potential partners, and prepared and submitted reports on the investigation.

PSTC completed a study of State and Federal legislation and public Utility Agency regulations, existing or pending, governing the use of Caller ID in selected U.S. telephone company areas. This study encompassed costs, constraints, available technologies and consumer reactions. PSTC did a study of U.S. foundations' potential interest in providing low cost mathematics and science television programming both in the U.S. and overseas. The client was the Educational Broadcasting Services Trust, a BBC-established nonprofit educational program producing entity.

PSTC is currently tracking trends and developments in telecommunications technologies, including actions of federal and state-level legislative and regulatory agencies affecting the availability and use of new and advanced technologies to improve the delivery of education and related public services.

PSTC staff includes a group diverse and highly-qualified professionals who have considerable experiences in government and the private sector. As part of their work, PSTC staff has extensive experience in large-scale program and project management. PSTC has managed a variety of projects for a wide range of clients, including universities, school systems, professional associations, government agencies, foundations, and business and industry.

PSTC is located at 4900 Seminary Road, Suite 430, Alexandria, VA 22311